

Resolution Approved by the
Minnesota Board of Medical Practice
at its
March 13, 2010,
Board Meeting

1. Whereas: The science regarding the presumptive diagnosis “chronic Lyme disease” and the long term prescription and administration of antibiotic therapy for its treatment is unsettled.
2. Whereas: The Minnesota Board of Medical Practice has never investigated, disciplined, or taken any other action against any practitioner solely on that basis.
3. Whereas: The Minnesota Board of Medical Practice has never received any complaints solely on that basis.
4. Whereas: Patients, some physicians, and the public are seeking guidance on this issue.

Therefore, in the interest of allowing time for science to resolve this issue:

1. The Minnesota Board of Medical Practice voluntarily will engage in a moratorium for a time period not to exceed five years, or the time at which double-blind, peer reviewed studies have resolved the issues, whichever is first, on the investigation, disciplining, or issuance of Corrective Action Agreements based solely on long term prescription or administration of antibiotic therapy for “chronic lyme disease,” except in the event of a complaint lodged by a patient or by a conservator, parent or guardian on the patient’s behalf for this specific use of antibiotic therapy.
2. Will publicize this voluntary action on its website.
3. Will educate its staff, medical coordinators, and members regarding this voluntary action.
4. Will diligently seek the results of double-blind, peer reviewed scientific studies that address this issue.
5. At the end of the five year period, in the absence of such scientific studies which bring a conclusion to the issue of the legitimacy of this diagnosis and treatment, the Board will reexamine this issue based on evidence available at the time.